



MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE: The community will honor veterans from every branch of the military during a special Memorial Day ceremony at **10 A.M. MONDAY, MAY 25** at the Gazebo at Main Square Park. Hear from local citizens about what Memorial Day means to them.

GAZEBO EXPRESS

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENT SOURCE FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND • MAY 2015

NEW ONLINE UTILITY BILL PAY

Paying your monthly water bill just got easier.

Clerk-Treasurer Michael Griffin has implemented an online bill pay system to give residents and businesses another option when paying for water, sewer services and trash.

"We have received many requests from residents seeking an online option to pay their utility bill and we went to work to make it happen" Griffin said. "We have protections in place to keep transactions secure."

The town accepts VISA, MasterCard and Discover credit and debit cards. Each online transaction constitutes a one-time payment.

There is a fee – \$2.50 or 3.95 percent – associated with any credit card transaction, whether it is made online or at Town Hall.

"The transaction fee does not come back to the town. The per-transaction fee is paid to the third party – in this case PayGov.us – that completes the secure transaction," he said. "We see this as a way to continue to serve Highland residents and business owners."



POINT. CLICK. PAY.

Residents can now pay their Highland utility bills online at the Town of Highland website. Simply log onto www.highland.in.gov and click the "Pay My Utility Bill" button in the lower right corner.

The button takes you to a secure portal powered by PayGov.US, which provides government sector payment and reporting services to state and local government agencies.



MEMBERSHIP FORMS INSIDE YOUR MAY WATER BILL

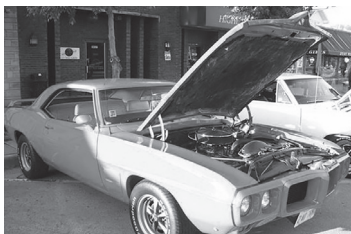
THEATRE MEMBERSHIP

With work continuing to refurbish the town's vintage movie house, the Theatre Board is looking to the community to support the project by becoming a founding member. Membership levels from \$20 to \$75 are available. Benefits include members-only events. A membership form is included in this month's water bill.



... TOWN TICKER ...

Home from college? Join **Lincoln Fitness Center** in May or June and pay no initiation fee on a three-month membership! ... **Highland Police** will honor their **fallen comrades** at 9 a.m. **May 9** during a public ceremony at Markley Park, 9501 Saric Court. ... **INFO:** Call Cpl. Erich Swisher at (219) 838-3184. ... The **Highland Hurricanes** finished 11th at the Indiana Swimming Age Group Championships - a best-ever finish for the club. Congratulations!



JOIN US FOR THE HIGHLAND MAIN STREET CAR CRUISE

The 2014 Car Cruise was such a smash, organizers Mario DeGeorge, Lee Kause and Mike Vanes have committed to a repeat performance this month.

"We had 245 really nice cars that participated in our first cruise that attracted about 1,000 people," said DeGeorge, who chairs the event hosted by Highland Main Street. "We had cars parked everywhere downtown. Lincoln's Carry Out and Langel's both stayed open and we had a fabulous time."

The cruise committee is hoping the weather is just as great and that even more cars – and spectators – head downtown Highland for this year's event.

"We don't restrict the cruise to older model cars," DeGeorge said. "If you have a sweet ride you would like to show-off, line up in Main Square parking lot and on Highway Avenue east of 5th Street and along Delaware Street early afternoon. We place all cars on a first-come/first served basis. See you there!"

CALLING ALL CAR BUFFS!

If you have a classic car or antique hot rod, join us for the Highland Main Street Car Cruise in downtown Highland. Cars may be registered on-site the afternoon of the event.

WHEN: 3-7 p.m. Saturday, **MAY 30**
RAIN DATE: 3-7 p.m. Sunday, **MAY 31**
WHERE: Downtown Highland
INFO: Call Car Cruise Chairman Mario DeGeorge at (708) 250-1388.

CRIME WATCH MEETING

Lake County Prosecutor Bernie Carter will be the guest speaker at this month's crime watch meeting.

WHEN: 6:30 p.m. **MAY 13**

WHERE: Highland Library

RESERVATIONS: Call Officer Shawn Anderson at (219) 838-3184 or email sanderson@highland.in.gov.

PIZZA PALOOZA

The Highland Chamber is hosting a pizza-tasting contest to find out who makes the best pizza in town! Sample locally made pies and 3 Floyds beer crafted right here in Northwest Indiana. Proceeds benefit the Highland Community Foundation.

WHEN: Doors open at 5 p.m. **MAY 11**

WHERE: Wicker Park Social Center

TICKETS: \$20 includes pizza samplings and one 3 Floyds beer.

FOR TICKETS OR INFO: Call the chamber office at (219) 923-3666 or visit www.highlandchamber.com.



WARD 1

BERNIE ZEMEN - vice president
bzemen@comcast.net
(219) 781-1056



WARD 2

MARK HERAK - president
mherak@highland.in.gov
(219) 838-0126



WARD 3

DAN VASSAR
dvassar@highland.in.gov
(219) 924-1945



WARD 4

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WARD 5

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NEWS TIP? STORY IDEA?

Send your suggestions to:
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DEDICATION LAUDS HIGHLAND'S BEAUTIFUL TREE-LINED GATEWAY

Nearly two years in the making, the Highland Gateway is ready for prime-time.

The 50-foot wide backlit H-I-G-H-L-A-N-D sign was a labor of love for members of the Redevelopment Commission, who invested hundreds of hours creating on paper the greenspace that serves as an integral component of the gateway that is seen by more than 55,000 drivers each day.

It was Greg Kuzmar, an architect by profession and vice president of the commission, who developed the look of the stone monument.

"The idea was to raise the bar in terms of landmark signage," Kuzmar said. "We wanted it to make a statement and offer a sense of permanence that would be coordinated and blended into the landscape. We have heard good things from people who have seen it and are pleased with how it turned out."



DEDICATION CEREMONY

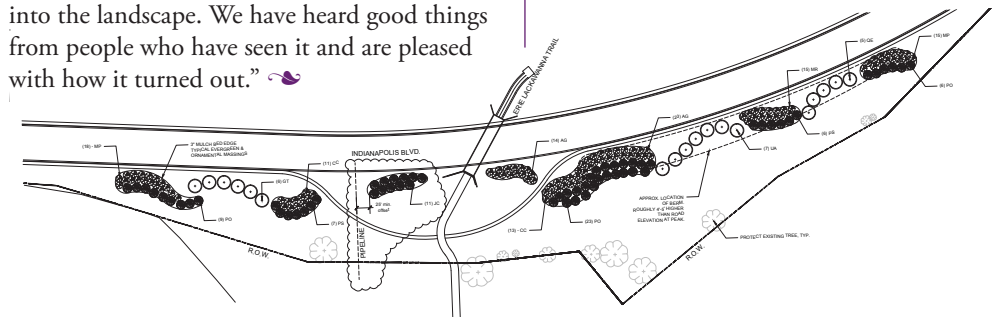
The Town Council and Redevelopment Commission invite the public to attend the dedication of Highland's new gateway.

More than 200 ornamental, canopy and evergreen trees dot the landscape welcoming visitors to our vibrant community.

WHEN: 7 p.m. Wednesday, **MAY 27**

WHERE: North Indianapolis Boulevard

INFO: Call Cecile Petro at (219) 972-7598 or email CPetro@highland.in.gov.



COMMUNITY RESOURCE OFFICER TO PATROL TOWN FOR VIOLATIONS

Enhancing quality of life will be the job of Sgt. Tim Towasnicki, who has been named as the town's Community Resource Officer.

The veteran police officer is focusing his efforts on patrolling every street in town on the hunt for reciprocity violations (out-of-town license plates) as well as junk/abandoned vehicles.

In his new role, Towasnicki will also focus on neighborhood traffic violations and work with the Building Inspections Department to address tall grass and unsightly, unsafe or abandoned properties/structures, etc.

INFO: Call Sgt. Tim Towasnicki at (219) 838-3184 to report junk/abandoned vehicles and reciprocity violations and call the Inspections Department at (219) 972-7595 to report property violations.

DID YOU KNOW?

CRAIG'S LIST TRANSACTIONS

The Police Department Lobby is open 24/7 for finalizing face-to-face transactions following on-line deals from sites, such as Craig's List. "We want people to be safe," Chief Pete Hojnicky said. "There have been instances where one party doesn't have the best intentions. These individuals are less likely to commit fraud when they are under our roof."

LOST & FOUND PROPERTY

Did you know the Police Department is a repository for found items, such as glasses, phones and keys? If you have lost an item — or found something — visit the department or call (219) 838-3184.

LOST & FOUND PETS

If your pet goes missing — or a lost pet finds you — contact the Police Department at (219) 838-3184 and they will gladly assist.



MEMO'S NAMED TOP IN STATE

California-based Movoto has named Highland's very own Memo's Taco Mex as one of the top restaurants in Indiana.

Not bad for a restaurant that happened on a whim and has become a popular mainstay, known for fresh food and unique offerings.

Owner Guillermo Munoz and his family were loving living in Highland when he saw an opportunity to open a restaurant in Porte De L'eau. No stranger to the restaurant business, Munoz cooked his heart out and held his breath in the early days to see how Memo's would fare.

"We have been beyond fortunate," he said. "Our business grew by word of mouth."

Surrounded by an explosion of restaurants, Munoz said he is grateful for the local support and the bump in recognition that followed the listing as No. 12 on Movoto's list of best eateries, which has been seen by nearly 200,000 people.

It looks like Memo's may have additional accolades in the offing. The restaurant has been contacted by PBS' "Check Please" and producers for the Food Network's "Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives."

IF YOU GO: Memo's Taco Mex, 2128 45th St. Check out Memo's Facebook page for hours.

IN OTHER RESTAURANT NEWS ...

LINCOLN'S CARRY OUT

Lincoln's Carry Out will get a mid-century modern look thanks to the town's Facade Improvement Program. Owner Elaine Stasinos is eligible to recoup \$12,453 of the \$45,450 in improvements, which will be completed by Apex Construction.

WHERE: 2813 Highway Ave.
HOURS: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Monday through Friday;
11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday.
INFO: Call (219) 923-4144.

THE QUESADILLA COMPANY

Home of the \$1 quesadilla, Highland's Lydick family opened The Quesadilla Company in April. Menu features burritos, tacos, fresh-squeezed lemonade, homemade pickled jalapenos, a crunch cup and more.

WHERE: 2945 Jewett Ave.
HOURS: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesday through Saturday.
INFO: Call (219) 513-9293 or
thequesadillacompany.com.

MRS. DORNBERG'S CULINARY EXPERIENCE

Become an inspired home chef at Mrs. Dornberg's, which moved to Highland's Port De L'eau Plaza.

WHERE: 2106 — 45th St.
INFO: Call (219) 922-4534 or
www.mrsdornbergs.com.

CHARITY SOFTBALL GAME

Come out and cheer on our Highland Police Department as they take on the Dyer, Griffith and Munster in the 3rd Annual Charity Softball Tournament.

The event features softball, door prizes, DJ, police/fire vehicles, moonwalk, concessions and blood drive. All proceeds benefit the Cancer Resource Centre. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased:

BY MAIL: Mail cash or check payable to the Town of Munster to Munster Police Department, c/o Ofc. James Ghrist, 1001 Ridge Road, Munster, IN 46321.

IN PERSON: In the front lobby of the Munster Police Department or from any of the participating players.

WHEN: 1:30 p.m. Sunday, **JUNE 14**
WHERE: Munster Community Park, 8549 Lions Club Drive, Munster
INFO: Call Corporal Shawn Anderson at the Highland Police Department, (219) 838-3181, ext. 4074.

ANNUAL FLOWER SALE

The Highland Adult Athletic Booster Club annual flower sale offers a wide assortment of flowers - hanging baskets, annual flats, flower pouches - just in time for Mother's Day.

WHEN: 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, **MAY 9**
WHERE: Middle School Circle Drive
INFO: Mike or Jennifer Fraley at (219) 972-0736 or email haabc14@gmail.com

COMMUNITY DINNER

Join us for fellowship and a community dinner featuring ham and sweet potatoes at Highland's Immanuel United Church of Christ.

WHEN: 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, **MAY 9**
WHERE: 2201 Azalea Drive, Highland
FEE: Free
INFO: To learn more about Immanuel Church of Christ or events, please visit <http://immanuelucchurchland.org>.

GIRLS ON THE RUN GEARING UP FOR SPRING RACE

Girls on the Run of Northwest Indiana is hosting its 6th annual Spring 5K at the Highland High School.

Part of a national initiative aimed at teaching life skills through dynamic, conversation-based lessons and running games, the program prepares girls in grades 3 through 8 to be physically and emotionally prepared to complete a 5k run. The goal is to inspire confidence among girls at an age when studies show their self-assuredness may begin to wane.

Since 2007, the program has expanded to include the town's four public elementary schools as well as teams at more than 50 Northwest Indiana locations.

Highland residents Jodi Aurand, the program director, and her sister, Jill Schlueter-Kim, the executive director of GOTR Northwest Indiana, have fostered its success, by bringing it to the area and helping it grow from 16 girls in 2007 to more than 1,000 in Lake, Porter, Jasper and LaPorte counties today.

SPRING 5K REGISTRATION

The course begins at 41st Street and Farmer Drive. Runners will proceed down 41st to Liable, then to Lincoln, down the bike path to the HHS track.

WHEN: 8 a.m. Saturday, **MAY 16**
WHERE: Highland High School
FEE: \$20 adults, \$15 kids under 16
ONLINE REGISTRATION: gotrofnwi.org.
INFO: Email the Spring Race Director Amy Kovacs at amy@gotrofnwi.com.

SOUNDS OF SUMMER

Sultry skies and oh-so-warm evening temperatures lend themselves to spending time outdoors. Grab a comfy lawn chair and your favorite bug spray and head to Main Square for Highland Park's summer concert series. From the classic tunes of our community band to the sounds of garage rock, pop, funk and blues, there's something for everyone to enjoy this summer!

JUNE 4: Community Band / American Legion (Classical and Modern)

JUNE 11: The Neverly Brothers (Rock & Roll)

JUNE 18: Oscar and the Majestics (Garage Rock)

JUNE 25: BMR4 (Straight-ahead Jazz / Funk)

JULY 9: Dan Mateja & IPA Tribute Band (Polka)

JULY 16: Fast Eddie & The Corvettes (50s – 70s)

WHEN: 7 to 9 p.m.

WHERE: Main Square Park Gazebo

NOTE: In the event of inclement weather, concerts will be held in the Lincoln Community Center Fieldhouse. Please bring your own chair.

INFO: www.highlandparks.org or 219.838.0114.

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

Do you enjoy shopping for rare items, such as comic books, sports cards, Hot Wheels, autographs and other memorabilia? Roger Parker from P & P Collectibles will promote the card show in conjunction with the Community Garage Sale, featuring household items, toys, books, and more!

WHEN: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, **MAY 9**

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

ADMISSION: Free

INFO: highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114.

SIX FLAGS GREAT AMERICA

Highland Parks has your ticket to summer fun: wild water slides and gravity-defying coasters at Six Flags Great America in Gurnee, IL.

TICKETS: \$42.50 for general admission tickets; \$75 for a season pass

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

INFO: www.highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114.

KIWANIS CHICKEN DINNER

Join the Highland Kiwanis for a chicken dinner at Main Square Park. Eat at the park or take home. Tickets are \$10 and include half a roasted chicken, Nelson's tasty Pit-Tatoes and slaw.

WHEN: 5 - 6:30 p.m. Thursday, **JUNE 4**

WHERE: Main Square Park

TICKETS: Purchase tickets by **MAY 28** at First Midwest Bank, 2842 Highway Ave.; Edward Jones, 8415 Kennedy Ave; or Lincoln Center.

INFO: Call Jeannine at (219) 923-2360.



Enjoy a family-friendly bicycle ride through our hometown.

Texas Corral will provide lunch at the registration site to all participants.

Friends and family may join the riders for lunch for \$5 (they will be given a wristband upon payment).

Bicycle raffle and Tour de Highland T-shirts available for purchase.

WHEN: 11 a.m. Saturday, **MAY 30**

WHERE: Check-in is at 10 a.m. at Wicker Park Pavilion. The bike ride starts at 11 a.m. and is expected to last about 60 minutes. Cookout will begin after riders return.

EARLY REGISTRATION:

\$10 by 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 20 includes giveaway and lunch

\$5 children age 10 and under

LATE REGISTRATION:

\$15 May 21 - 30

giveaways while supplies last

ONLINE REGISTRATION:

www.signmeup.com/107587

INFO: Call (219) 923-3666 or email info@highlandchamber.com.

SUMMER THEATER AUDITIONS

Calling all actors! The Highland Parks & Recreation Department's Performing Arts Group is looking for singers and dancer for this summer's production of "The Big Bad Musical" with performances scheduled in July and August.

WHEN: Singing auditions are from 6 to 8 p.m.

Monday, **MAY 18** and dance auditions are from

6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, **MAY 19.**

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

QUESTIONS? Email Director Christina Biancardi at cmbiancardi@gmail.com.

10-WEEK SUMMER CAMP

Highland Parks and Recreation's summer camp engages kids – ages 5 to 12 – in games, crafts, songs, drama, sports activities and field trips. Register your child today for an out-of-this-world camp experience.

WHEN: 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Monday - Friday,

JUNE 1 to AUGUST 7. Pre-camp hours are from 7 - 8:30 a.m.

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

CAMP FEE: \$105/\$110 weekly, \$25/\$30 daily

PRE-CAMP FEE: \$30/\$35 weekly, \$6/\$7 daily

INFO: www.highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114.

PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Join us for a presentation about our preschool program. Registration information will be provided for parents of students ages 1-5.

WHEN: 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, **MAY 26**

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Tuesday, **MAY 19**

INFO: www.highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114.

POP WARNER SIGN-UPS

There's still time to register your child for Highland Pop Warner football, cheer or dance. Must bring child's birth certificate, report card and physical. A doctor will be onsite to provide physicals for \$15.

WHEN: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturdays, **MAY 9**

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

FEE: \$200 football, \$200 cheer and dance

INFO: Call Mark at (708) 516-4948 for football and Tanya at (219) 677-8070 for cheer/dance.

INDOOR STREET MARKET

Stop indoors for your favorite breads, fresh local honey, cupcakes, spices and more one last time before the outdoor market debuts in June.

WHEN: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday, **MAY 9**

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

INFO: www.highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114.